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1 United States armed forces since the treaty of 1868 was signed;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the average age of Navajo Nation World War II
4 veterans is seventy-five years, and over fifty veterans die
5 each year; and

6 WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation has three potential locations
7 for cemeteries, each one covering more than forty acres, and
8 none is far from available services; and

9 WHEREAS, because so many Navajo people have served the
10 United States bravely and with dignity, it is necessary that an
11 appropriate final resting place be available for them near
12 their families;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico congressional
15 delegation be requested to support legislation expanding 38
16 U.S.C. 2408 to include tribal governments in the distribution
17 of grants from the federal state cemetery grants program so
18 that a Native American veterans' national cemetery can be
19 established within the four sacred mountains of the Navajo
20 Nation, allowing both Native American and non-Native American
21 veterans to be buried near their homes in the Gallup, Grants,
22 Farmington, Shiprock and Window Rock areas; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the
25 director of the department of Navajo veterans affairs, the

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1 secretary of the United States department of veterans affairs
2 and the state director of veterans' affairs.

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